

## **Mitchell Launches Lamb BBQ Season**

**Guelph, ON – May 2, 2005** The Honourable Andrew (Andy) Mitchell, Federal Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food, and MP for the Ontario riding Parry Sound-Muskoka, on April 30 to help launch this year's barbecue season with Lamb on the grill.

At a luncheon held this past Saturday, Minister Mitchell grilled fresh Canadian Lamb alongside Jeff Suddaby, owner of *3 Guys and a Stove* in Huntsville. Suddaby, a long time supporter of Canadian Lamb, hosted the barbecue at his restaurant where Mitchell and a group of 10 invited guests and media representatives, enjoyed a lunch of lamb ribs and loin medallions.

“This was unique opportunity for the Canadian sheep industry to sit down with Minister Mitchell in a relaxed environment and discuss the issues producers are facing.” said John Hemsted, Vice-chair of the Canadian Sheep Federation CSF. “We were able to talk about solutions to the issues while enjoying the excellent cuisine of Jeff Suddaby.”

The CSF used the opportunity to discuss with Mitchell some of the pressing issues facing the sector. Inadequate access to slaughter capacity, scrapie surveillance and issues surrounding rendering excluded material were just three of the issues discussed. The Minister listened to the concerns of the industry before reiterating government commitment to agriculture.

The Canadian Sheep Federation is a national, non-profit organization that represents all Canadian sheep producers. Its mission is further the viability, expansion and prosperity of the Canadian sheep and wool industry